

APPLICATION NO. 09/092,498	FILING DATE 6th Nov. 2001	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR Brian M. CURTIS	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 2000P09042US01
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Commissioner of Patents  
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Alexandria VA 22313-1450

EXAMINER Randy W. GIBSON
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2841

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**Response To Non-Final Office Action  
Under 37 CFR 1.111**

MAR 08 2004

<b>CERTIFICATE OF SENDING UNDER 37 CFR 1.6 and/or 1.8</b> I certify that this document and its related attachments are being sent to the USPTO via fax or mail as indicated above and as provided for under the applicable provisions of 37 CFR 1.6 and 1.8, as appropriate, and in full compliance with the requirements thereof. By <u>LAURA M. SLENZAK</u> Date <u>08 MARCH 2004</u>	
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**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

**OFFICIAL**

Responsive to the **NON-FINAL Office Action** mailed 15th December 2003, Applicant(s) submit the following amendments and/or responsive remarks as provided under **37 CFR 1.111** and the other relevant Rules. Any and all necessary fees due, or reimbursements of excessive fees paid, may be charged to our deposit account, 19-2179, per the enclosed **DUPLICATE Fee Calculation and Transmittal Sheet**.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

In the Specification:

On page 3, paragraph 8, please amend the specification as provided on the first following sheet. Likewise, on page 8, paragraph 28, please amend the specification as provided on the second following sheet.

**REMARKS**

Applicant thanks the Examiner for his consideration over the telephone today. As discussed, the Specification has been amended to confirm that the word "normal" was indeed intended in the ordinary layman sense, e.g. definition #2 as provided in *Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary* (©1990).

08 MARCH 2004

Respectfully submitted,,

PLEASE DIRECT ALL WRITTEN  
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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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[8] Weight sensor assemblies for measuring a ~~normal~~ weight force typically or normally applied to a vehicle seat are installed between an upper seat structure and a vehicle base member such as a riser or vehicle floor. Each sensor assembly includes a plate with a first mount for mounting the beam to the upper seat structure, a second mount for mounting the beam to the vehicle base member, and a center body portion extending between the first and second mounts that exhibits bending behavior during normal weight force applications. A resilient beam member is mounted between each weight sensor assembly and the vehicle base member to prevent sensor failure during an overload force application in a direction opposite to that of a normal weight force application. A strain gage is mounted on the plate at the center body portion to measure the strain caused by the bending. The strain measurements are transmitted to a central processing unit that determines the total weight. The processing unit generates a control signal for a safety device based on the weight determination.

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[28] The system also includes an overload stop, indicated generally at 68. The overload stop 68 includes a fastener element 70 that has one end 72 attached to the base member 24 and an opposite end 74 that extends upwardly into the track assembly 26. The first track 28 includes an opening 76 having a predetermined size. The fastener element 70 has an enlarged head portion 78 that is greater in size than the opening 76 in the first track 28. During normal weight force applications, meaning the application of a weight force during situations normally encountered in vehicle seating situations, a gap 80 is formed between a bottom surface 82 of the head portion 78 and a track surface 84 of the first track 84. Preferably this gap 80 is at least three (3) millimeters.

PTO/SB/17 (10-02)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0032  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**FEE TRANSMITTAL**  
**for FY 2003**

Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$)

## Complete if Known

Application Number	09 992,498
Filing Date	6TH NOV 2001
First Named Inventor	CURTIS
Examiner Name	GIBSON
Art Unit	2841
Attorney Docket No.	2000P 09042 US01

## METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

☐ Check ☐ Credit card ☐ Money Order ☐ Other ☐ None☒ Deposit Account:Deposit  
Account  
Number  
Deposit  
Account  
Name19-2179  
SIEMENS

The Commissioner is authorized to: (check all that apply)

☒ Charge fee(s) indicated below ☒ Credit any overpayments  
☒ Charge any additional fee(s) during the pendency of this application  
☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.

## FEE CALCULATION

## 1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1001 740	2001 370	Utility filing fee	
1002 330	2002 165	Design filing fee	
1003 510	2003 255	Plant filing fee	
1004 740	2004 370	Release filing fee	
1005 160	2005 80	Provisional filing fee	

SUBTOTAL (1) (\$) 0

## 2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
Independent	-20** =	X	
Multiple Dependent	-3** =	X	

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description
1202 18	2202 9	Claims in excess of 20
1201 84	2201 42	Independent claims in excess of 3
1203 280	2203 140	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
1204 84	2204 42	** Release independent claims over original patent
1205 18	2205 9	** Release claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

SUBTOTAL (2) (\$) 0

\*\*or number previously paid, if greater; For Release, see above

## FEE CALCULATION (continued)

## 3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity Small Entity

Fee Code (\$)	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1051 130	2051 65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
1052 50	2052 25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
1053 130	2053 65	Non-English specification	
1812 2,520	2812 1,260	For filing a request for ex parte reexamination	
1804 920*	2804 460*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
1805 1,840*	2805 920*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1251 110	2251 55	Extension for reply within first month	
1252 400	2252 200	Extension for reply within second month	
1253 920	2253 460	Extension for reply within third month	
1254 1,440	2254 720	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255 1,960	2255 980	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401 320	2401 160	Notice of Appeal	
1402 320	2402 160	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
1403 280	2403 140	Request for oral hearing	
1451 1,510	2451 755	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
1452 110	2452 55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
1453 1,280	2453 640	Petition to revive - unintentional	
1501 1,280	2501 640	Utility issue fee (or release)	
1502 450	2502 225	Design issue fee	
1503 520	2503 260	Plant issue fee	
1450 130	2450 65	Petitions to the Commissioner	
1507 50	2507 25	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
1506 180	2506 90	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
8021 40	28021 20	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1509 740	2509 370	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))	
1510 740	2510 370	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))	
1801 740	2801 370	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
1502 900	2502 450	Request for expedited examination of a design application	

Other fee (specify)

\*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3) (\$) 0

## SUBMITTED BY

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Date

08 MARCH 2004

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.17 and 1.27. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 36 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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